

VZCZCXRO9050
PP RUEHFK
DE RUEHKO #2760 1700712
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 190712Z JUN 07
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4629
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY
RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY
RUALSFJ/COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA PRIORITY
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 1610
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 5183
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 7484
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1739
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 3537
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 4652
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS TOKYO 002760

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STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,
EAP/J, EAP/P, PM;
USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;
TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA;
CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;
PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [OIIP](#) [KMDR](#) [KPAO](#) [JA](#)

SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - AFGHANISTAN

¶1. LEAD STORIES: Tuesday morning's Nihon Keizai front-
paged a report from Vienna concerning an IAEA
announcement on Monday that the UN nuclear watchdog
agency will send a group of inspectors to North Korea
next week.

¶2. "Concern over Worsening Security Situation in
Afghanistan" Liberal Asahi editorialized (6/19): "A
suicide bombing targeting a police bus in Kabul killed
35 people and injured many others, including three
Japanese NPO officials. The Taliban claimed
responsibility and declared that it would continue
terrorist bombings.... Though Afghanistan has been
overshadowed by Iraq, it has become clear that the
situation there is also dire.... Following 9/11, the US

attacked Afghanistan and toppled the Islamic
fundamentalist Taliban regime, apparently driving al-
Qaeda terrorists out of the country. Since then, the
Taliban have gradually regained strength almost
unnoticed.... The international community has not been
hesitant to assist Afghanistan, with NATO dispatching
an International Security Assistance Force and many
countries providing financial assistance for the
nation's reconstruction. The Taliban's resurgence may
be attributable to a delay in the reconstruction of
farming villages, where most Afghans live.... The war
in Iraq has contributed to the worsening security
situation in Afghanistan, as the US diverted many of
the troops who had been engaged in mop-up operations
against the Taliban there to Iraq."

DONOVAN